DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 440 318 CG 029 848

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TITLE	Play Therapy with Children in Crisis: Individual, Group, and Family Treatment. Second Edition.
ISBN	ISBN-1-57230-485-5
PUB DATE	1999-00-00
NOTE	506p.; Foreword by Lenore Terr.
AVAILABLE FROM	Guilford Press, 72 Spring St., New York, NY 10012 ($46). Tel: 800-365-7006 (Toll Free); Web site: http://www.guilford.com.
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Collected Works - General (020)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Art Therapy; *Children; Counseling Effectiveness; *Counseling Techniques; *Crisis Intervention; Environmental Influences; Helping Relationship; *Nonverbal Communication; Play Therapy
IDENTIFIERS	Solution Focused Brief Therapy; Terrorism Survivors; Traumas

ABSTRACT

Children have not yet developed the coping mechanisms of adults, and it is difficult for them to verbally communicate their needs. Practitioners increasingly recognize the usefulness of nonverbal communication methods to help these children. This revised and updated casebook and text focuses on treatment of children who have experienced crises resulting from psychological, physical, or environmental events, such the violence of war or terrorist acts. This edition notes that managed care has emerged a controlling factor in the treatment planning for children. Counselors have learned to utilize short-term, intermittent, and group therapy to help children recover from their exposure to crisis. Although traditional one-on-one interventions continue to be appropriate for children who have experienced severe circumstances such as suicide in the family or multiple traumas, many children can benefit from briefer methods. The book presents case studies in a two-column format that gives readers content of therapy sessions, along with clinician's accompanying thoughts and rationale for intervention. Chapters include literature reviews, case summaries, assessment and treatment plans, and questions for discussion. It demonstrates a variety of play therapy methods such as art, story telling, group art activities, and games, and provides examples of the power of play as a means of symbolic communication. A reference section follows each chapter. (Contains a list of resources and an index.) (JDM)

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